

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DACCA 02580 270240Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /045 W
-----064593 270628Z /73
R 260947Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9026
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 2580

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, BG, TH
SUBJ: NEW BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND

1. THE BDG ANNOUNCED APRIL 24 THE APPOINTMENT OF
MAJOR GENERAL QUAZI GULAM DASTGIR AS THE NEW BANGLADESH
AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND. DASTGIR HAS BEEN ON INDEFINITE
ASSIGNMENT TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SINCE
DECEMBER, 1977, WHEN HE WAS RELIEVED AS DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE BANGLADESH RIFLES, THE BORDER SECURITY FORCE.

2. THE FOLLOWING BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION WAS PRINTED
APRIL 25 IN THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER:

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: QUOTE: BORN ON 1ST JUNE 1933
GENERAL DASTGIR STUDIED IN ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE CALCUTTA
AND SUBSEQUENTLY GRADUATED FROM PESHAWAR UNIVERSITY.
HE JOINED PAKISTAN MILITARY ACADEMY IN FEBRUARY 1951
AND WAS COMMISSIONED IN 1953. LATER HE GRADUATED FROM
STAFF COLLEGE QUETTA AND INFANTRY SCHOOL, U.S.A.
HE SERVED AS CHIEF LOGISTICS IN ARMY HEADQUARTERS,
BANGLADESH ARMY, COMMANDED TWO BRIGADES AND ON PROMOTION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DACCA 02580 270240Z

TOTHE RANK OF MAJOR GENERAL IN AUGUT, 1975, WAS APPOINTED
AS DIRECTOR GENERAL BANGLADESH RIFLES AND REMAINED THERE TILL
DECEMBER 12, 1977 WHEN HE JOINED THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
GENERAL DASTGIR HAS HIS WIFE, A SON AND A DAUGHTER.
END QUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED

3. DASTGIR SERVED MOST OF HIS MILITARY CAREER IN WEST PAKISTAN, WHERE HE WAS INTERNED DURING THE 1971 LIBERATION WAR AND WAS NOT REPATRIATED UNTIL 1973. WHILE HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE BANGLADESH RIFLES, DASTGIR WAS REPORTEDLY CONSIDERED A RIVAL OF PRESIDENT ZIA, AS DASTGIR HAD BEEN SENIOR TO ZIA IN THE PAKISTAN ARMY. AFTER DASTGIR LEFT ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARMY LAST DECEMBER HE WAS PLACED ON DEPUTATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND IT HAD BEEN WIDELY RUMORED THAT HE WOULD BE APPOINTED AN AMBASSADOR. WITH THE TRANSFER OF NAZRUL ISLAM TO ISLAMABAD THE BANGKOK POSITION BECAME AVAILABE.

4. DASTGIR AND HIS WIFE BOTH COME FROM EDUCATED AND WELL-TO-DO FAMILIES. HIS FAMILY SHIFTED FROM WEST TO EAST BENGAL IN 1947. DASTGIR IS A QUIET PERSON, WHO, IN THE OBSERVATION OF OFFICERS OF THE EMBASSY CAN BEST BE DRAWN OUT IN ONE-ON-ONE SITUATIONS. HE SPEAKS CONFIDENTLY ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS. ONE OF DASTGIR'S NIECES IS EMPLOYED IN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AS SOCIAL SECRETARY. MRS. DASTGIR (KOHINOOR) COMES FROM A PROMINENT SYLHET FAMILY. ONE OF HER BROTHERS IS KAISER RASHID, THE FORMER PAKISTAN FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER WHO HAD BEEN A PRIVATE SECRETARY AND CONFIDANT TO FORMER PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO. ANOTHER BROTHER IS HUMAYUN RASHID CHOWDHURY, PRESENT BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA. HER OTHER WAS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DURING THE AYUB REGIME. MRS. DASTGIR, A
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DACCA 02580 270240Z

CHARMING, GRACIOUS AND INTELLIGENT LADY, IS CRIPPLED FROM POLIO AND MUST RELY ON CRUTCHES TO MOVE AROUND. SHE HAS BEEN PERHAPS THE MOST ACTIVE OF SENIOR MILITARY WIVES IN SOCIAL WORK AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.
SCHNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DACCA02580
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780179-0974
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780417/aaaaangf.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f5cb2fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2847129
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, BG, TH, (DASTGIR, QUAZI GULAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f5cb2fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014